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House.

MR. BYNUM mistakes insolence and

bullying for statesmanship. It is a common

mistake in the choice Democratic

circles which Bynum represents.

MR. BYNUM probably experiences no

regret over the disgrace his ungente-

manly conduct has cast upon himself

and upon Congress. He has already

got enough free advertising and no-

tority out of the affair to excite the in-

terest of the museum people should he

find himself out of a political job.

RECENTLY the Mayor of Cleveland, O.,

was bitterly denounced for appointing a

man to the police force who proved to

be a drunken ruffian, but, in defense,

that official presented the man's petition,

signed by a number of the leading citi-

zens of both parties. It is very hard to

refuse to sign a petition, but sometimes

it should be done.

THERE is considerable nonsense about

the anxiety of Congressmen for an early

adjournment in order to get home in time

to take care of the fall campaign. They

can obtain much more popularity this

year by staying in Washington until the

legislation promised the people is dis-

posed of than by coming home to shake

hands on the street corners.

LAST week the correspondents of metropoli-

tan papers in Europe told us that the

political movements indicated a

close alliance between Germany and

Russia, but now that Emperor William

has made a speech which is construed to

be in the nature of a hostile warning to

Russia, the gossip of an alliance be-

tween France and Russia is revived.

PROBABLY one reason why Mr. Bynum

was not expelled from the House on Sat-

urday, as he deserved, was because his

Republican associates are so well ac-

quainted with the character and char-

acteristics of Indiana Democrats that

they could not hope his successor would

be an improvement. They resolved to

endure the evil they have rather than

risk those they know not of.

IN Germany coal commands double

the price which ruled two years ago. It

costs much more in England than it did

a few years ago—all of which goes to show

that the supply which can be mined at

low prices has been exhausted. But

there is an abundance in this country,

and in Indiana natural gas, which is

much better. Higher fuel abroad may

come in to offset the higher wages paid

here.

THE latest point which has been raised

in connection with the decision of the

Supreme Court is, that, conceding Con-

gress can grant the States the power

which this decision denies them, how

will the proposed Congressional legisla-

tion, which the court declares to be ne-

cessary to enable States to restrict in-

terstate traffic in liquors or other articles,

affect the State license and prohibitory

laws which are already in existence? If

these laws are not valid now, can they

be made so by the affirmation of Con-

gress?

THE Democratic papers of the West

and South are calling for free coinage,

while the Democratic and mugwump

publications of the East are dead set

against all silver legislation. In the

Republican camp there are two or three

extreme silver advocates in the far

West, and but one prominent gold ex-

tremist in New England, the great ma-

jesty of the Republican press favoring

a conservative middle course. When it

comes to questions of a business nature

the Republican party is generally of one

mind, and always sound.

THE effort to found a party upon class

distinctions, made frequently in the past

by various labor organizations, and at

present being made by one or two agri-

cultural societies, is always a direct chal-

lenge to a conflict of classes, the worst

possible calamity that can happen to any

people, be their form of government

what it may. Of the nations of the past

conspicuous for their strength and civiliza-

tion, not one was obliterated by fore-

ign conquest until after its strength

had first been sapped by internecine

war. Sectional civil war is terrible

enough, but a civil war of class against

class means national death, amidst

horrors indescribable.

An important decision has been ren-

dered by Assistant Secretary Bussey

in the case of a man who was injured in

a railroad accident while on his way home

on a furlough. The Commissioner re-

jected the claim on the ground that the

injury was not received while in the line

of duty. It appears that the soldier was

on furlough some months previous, but

was recalled with the promise that when

the demand for his return was filled he could take the remainder of the leave granted. It was while going home to spend the remainder of his furlough that he was injured. The Secretary has set aside the decision of the Commissioner, and holds that the applicant be granted a pension, as he was acting under orders and the injury was not due to any fault or neglect of his.

BYNUM IN HIS FAVORITE ROLE.

Mr. Bynum is trying to seek notoriety and party leadership in the House by methods most congenial to men of his stamp. His instincts are those of a bully, and he knows no other way of making himself conspicuous or aspiring to leadership. The Campbell incident, resulting in Bynum's deserved censure by the House, after a characteristic exhibition of ruffianism on his part, illustrates his caliber and methods. Mr. Campbell is a glass manufacturer of Pittsburgh, and Congressman Bayne testifies to his good character and standing. After having appeared before the ways and means committee at Washington, and having a conference with Messrs. Bynum and Wilson of West Virginia, he made a statement concerning the interview which they claimed was not correct. This statement, in the form of an affidavit, was sent into Mr. Wilson's district, whereupon Mr. Bynum, several days ago, went out of his way to drag the incident before the House, and denounce Mr. Campbell as "a liar and perjurer." This was ruffianly and brutal, to begin with. There may be an honest difference of opinion or memory between gentlemen without either being intentionally a liar, much less a perjurer. Mr. Campbell's statement may or may not have been correct; but, no matter how erroneous it was, Mr. Bynum had no right, as a Representative in Congress, and in the absence of Mr. Campbell, to brand him as a liar and perjurer. He would not have done it to Mr. Campbell's face. Mr. Bynum knows when to be fierce and when to be discreet. Mr. Campbell resented the assault upon him in a letter, which Mr. Bayne, his representative, sent to the Clerk's desk and had read. It seems to have been couched in vigorous language and characterized Bynum's charges as false. A citizen who is attacked on the floor of the House has at least the right to retaliate the attack, and if he uses language as personal and abusive as that which has been applied to him he is not to blame. Campbell's letter made Bynum madder than ever, and following again the ruffianly instincts of his nature, he applied to Mr. Bayne the same epithets he had applied to Campbell. In other words, he called Mr. Bayne, on the floor of the House, "a liar and perjurer." Expulsion would not have been too severe a punishment for this offense. A vote of censure was the least penalty the House could inflict for so gross a violation of its rights and dignity. A gentleman would have apologized to the House, if not to Mr. Bayne, but Bynum did not. A gentleman would have felt humiliated by the vote of censure, but Bynum, ruffianly to the last, declared that he accepted it as "a decoration of honor." He was probably imitating the action of some Greene county bully whom he had seen fined for contempt of court, and who had won the applause of other bullies by accepting his punishment with an added insult to the judge. That is Bynum's idea of bravery and manhood.

The trouble with Mr. Bynum is a radical one: he is by nature a bully. To the extent that this is the result of heredity or early surroundings he is not altogether to blame, but when he decides to enter public life he should have made some effort to overcome his natural defects. It is hard for a man who has not the instincts or the breeding of a gentleman to assume the character late in life, but Mr. Bynum might at least curb his natural instincts enough to save him from carrying the manners of Greene county to the national capital, and lowering the House of Representatives to the level of a prize-ring or cock-pit. The Journal does not know Mr. Campbell, except as he is vouched for by Congressman Bayne, but he must be exceedingly slippery if he does not bear as good a reputation for veracity as Bynum does among those who have known him longest.

FLAX AND LINENS.

It has been asserted with so much positiveness, and for so long a period, that the flax of this country cannot be used in the manufacture of fine linens that many persons have come to believe it. Various reasons have been assigned for this assumption, among which is the rank growth of the American flax and the lack of that peculiar damp climate which is believed to be essential for the preparation of the fiber. We are told that Ireland and Scotland are countries having all the conditions for flax-growing for fabrics, and that it is better to purchase our linen goods there. This would be good advice if it were based upon facts, but as it is not it is worthless. Ireland and Scotland do not produce one-fifth of the flax which Great Britain manufactures, Russia alone furnishing English manufacturers twice as much as Ireland and Scotland produce. It would be very strange if a country having every sort of climate and soil should not have territory suited to flax-culture. But it has. Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Oregon and other States have the soil and climate. In his speech on the tariff bill, Mr. La Follette, of Wisconsin, presented an array of facts to prove the practicability and the profit of the cultivation of flax in this country for the production of linen goods, sufficient to satisfy any candid person. Mr. La Follette exhibited to the committee of the whole samples of flax fiber grown and prepared in several of the States of the Northwest and Oregon, which had been pronounced by experts and manufacturers to be as good quality as can be found in the world. He presented the statement of Mr. Eugene Bosse, of Green Bay, Wisconsin, a farmer who had had experience in Belgium, in which he gave the result of his experiment with six acres of flax. The fiber of the six acres cost him in labor, material, and trans-

portation to Boston, \$251.97. The product of the six acres is as follows: Flax-seed, \$60; tow, \$12; fiber, \$408.08—total, \$480.08, showing a profit of \$229.01. Regarding the quality of fibers from the Northwest, Mr. John H. Ross, of Boston, of the flax manufacturing firm of Ross, Turner & Co., an acknowledged authority, wrote as follows:

These samples of water-rotted flax were produced from flax grown near Cedar Falls, Ia., for seed purposes, and demonstrate the possibilities of this fiber, when properly handled and grown, as at present, without additional expense to the farmer, except keeping the straw straight and the rippling of the seed. I would note here that I have received samples of flax from Wisconsin, grown for the fiber from imported seed and water-rotted, and this flax will compare favorably for fineness and spinning quality with the higher grades of Europe. This flax well illustrates the fact that, with proper care and attention, we can produce in our Northwest States fiber fully equal to any now grown in Europe.

Last year we imported \$18,467,823 worth of manila, flax, hemp and jute, and \$25,955,223 worth of goods made from these materials—a total of \$44,423,045, upon which a duty of \$11,400,548 was collected. But, considering the undervaluation of these goods by the importers, to lessen the *ad valorem* duties, it is estimated that the value of the materials and goods was \$60,000,000. The Department of Agriculture is making efforts to encourage the production of flax and other fibers, and if, in any considerable degree, it is successful, it will establish a new and valuable branch of agriculture. The department should have the co-operation of progressive farmers and agricultural associations.

STARVATION WAGES.

The most noticeable article in the last issue of the British magazine, the *Nineteenth Century*, is that of Tom Mann, the president of the Dockers' Union. He discusses the labor question in a most dispassionate and able manner. He says that the wages of skilled labor are kept at a low rate because of the large number of handy men, that is, men who have not acquired a proper training as apprentices, but who have some knowledge of the trade, who step in and take the place of skilled labor when it demands a fair price. But the point in Mr. Mann's paper to which special attention is called is the low rate of wages paid to skilled labor in many branches of employment. For instance, he says the chain-makers of Cradley Heath work hard the whole week through for \$2.50 or \$3. The gun-lock filers of Staffordshire get still less. In towns like Bolton, in Lancashire, thousands of workmen get no more than \$3.75 a week, and in the eastern counties many are working for \$2.75 and \$3, out of which they have to pay \$1.2 cents or \$1 per week for rent, and \$1.2 cents for a hundredweight of coal. Before the recent great strike in East London, thousands of dock-laborers considered themselves lucky if they averaged \$2 a week. What would workmen in Indiana cities think of \$2 as the average wages for a week's work, or all the work they could find to do in a week? How much less trade than they now have would the retailers of a city like Indianapolis have if its army of wage-earners could not earn more than \$3 a week to spend for the necessities of life? Yet that is the grade of wages which has been established in England under the free-trade system of the Cobden Club, and which that organization is assisting the Democratic party to establish in the United States.

In the tariff debate, Mr. Mills, who has assumed the leadership of the Democrats, is no match for Major McKinley. When the former complained of the short time allowed for debate, Mr. McKinley showed him that the time allowed in three successive Congresses was less than the Republicans are now giving. Again, Mr. Mills was raging because of the high duty imposed upon rye, which he denounced as something in the nature of an outrage. Mr. McKinley, after Mr. Mills had subsided, pointed out the fact that the duty imposed by the bill under consideration is the same as it was in the Mills bill, which the Democratic House had passed. The next day, when the subject of window-glass was under discussion, the Democrats talked about percentages, as if the duty was added to the foreign price. Mr. Mills took his share of the time, but when he had subsided Mr. McKinley called his attention to the fact that in the glass schedule of the Mills bill the percentages ranged from 60 to 132, adding, for the benefit of Mr. Mills and his friends, the following:

If that were a revenue tariff, why should not the Republicans increase that tariff and make it protective in favor of the United States? Why had the gentlemen on the other side left a duty of 132 per cent on plate glass? Was it because it was a revenue tariff, or was it because the Democratic party of Missouri made that condition of its support of the Mills bill?

Mr. Mills had no reply to make to this home thrust of the well-equipped leader of the Republican side.

WHEN Mr. Cleveland sent his free-trade message to Congress, in December, 1887, an enthusiastic member of the British Parliament telegraphed the New York Herald as follows:

To convert the United States is indeed a triumph. The Cobden Club will henceforth set up a special shrine for the worship of President Cleveland. Cobden founded free trade; Cleveland saved it.

Since that time the Cobden Club has learned that free trade cannot be established in this country by a Democratic President.

SILVER, after reaching \$1.07 an ounce, has receded a little, but to be equivalent in value to gold it must reach \$1.29. There are those who are sure that it will reach that figure if coinage was free, but the majority in Congress do not share that opinion.

DR. BYERS, president of the National Convention of Charities, said in his annual address at Baltimore, on Wednesday:

India is to-day attracting far more attention (from the benevolent) than Indiana, and yet investigations made and reported to this conference within the past three years by Mr. McCulloch indicate conditions of social degradation and human depravity that could scarcely be surpassed in pagan lands or among savage tribes.

We do not know just what Mr. McCulloch has been saying about Indiana

depravity, but within three years he has had opportunity to study the workings and the works of two awful Legislatures, to view the exposure of tally-sheet forgeries and other ballot-box frauds, and later to consider the conduct of a reform city council. Just what assistance an assemblage of benevolent people could lend toward ridding Indiana of such elements of iniquity is not clear, unless it means to undertake the conversion and civilization of the Democratic party. Such a purpose is noble, but the Journal is free to say that the good men and women engaged in improving the moral condition of the world do not half realize the depravity of Indiana Democrats, or they would not tackle the job of reforming them.

The liver of the late Mrs. Pettit, of Lafayette, is getting to be more of a nuisance to the public than it ever could have been to that unfortunate lady when she was alive and had it with her. It is about time the organ was retired from view.

INDIANAPOLIS will take good care of the national Conference of Charities and Correction which is to meet here next year, and will endeavor to remove the unfavorable impression some delegates have gained.

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

BUFFALO BILL now owns King Bomba's house in Naples.

EX-SENATOR SAWYER, of Alabama, is now a second-class War Department clerk in Washington.

LOYD GEORGE, a new member of Parliament, is the son of a shoemaker. He was a street-preacher at fifteen, and educated himself.

EDWARD SPENCER, a possible successor to Gladstone, is fifty-five, and a tall man with an enormous mustache and beard. His face is narrow, but full of strength.

SECRETARY BLAINE, speaking of his Washington house lately, said: "We did not remodel it because we have no desire to have, as the boy said, Queen Anne at the front and Mary Ann at the back."

JULIA HONORE, Grant's sixteen-year-old daughter of Minister, Fred Grant, can speak Spanish, German and French. She will make up for the time lost by her heroic grandfather, the "silent man."

EDOUARD STRAUSS is one of the three sons of Johann Strauss, the famous composer, and is fifty-five years old. He has a law degree from the University of Vienna, and has never been in America before.

LOUISE MICHEL, the "stormy petrel of French politics," has a flaming red face, an egg-shaped forehead and straggling ringlets of hair falling loosely on her neck. She dresses in black, and wears neither flowers nor jewelry.

BRET HARTE is a careful, even fastidious worker. He called at a friend's office, in London, the other day and filled the wastebasket with epistolary attempts before he was satisfied with a letter which he left on his friend's desk.

NOW see what is in a name, as a Boston preacher puts it: "When a man claims with complacency to be an agnostic, ask him if he would be willing to substitute for the Greek the full Latin equivalent for the term—ignoramus?"

A WOMAN who went around the world in two years and a half, and visited all the places she could hear of, says in her book about the journey that she saw nothing so beautiful as an apple tree in blossom in May on a New England hillside.

LONGFELLOW's house in Cambridge is now occupied by his eldest daughter and her uncle, the Rev. Samuel Longfellow. The home is kept unassuming. Miss Longfellow, Mrs. K. H. and Miss M. H. Thorpe, have built houses adjoining the old estate.

JOHN O. HART, of County Clare, Ireland, an aged author, publicly acknowledges the receipt of an annuity donated by George W. Childs, to the end that "the declining years of the writer may be free from care and anxiety." Mr. Hart is the author of "Irish Pedigrees."

BISHOP MALLALIEU, in the Western Christian Advocate, tells how professing church members visiting the City of Mexico go to see bull-fights on Sunday. And he thinks it a little inconsistent for Christians who go to the bull-ring to read the Bible, the Pullman car every morning to make such a poor use of Sunday.

WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS lives in an apartment-house on Commonwealth avenue in Boston. He and his wife have led a retired life since the death of their eldest son, Mr. H. H. Howells, who was killed in the war, for which he has great talent. Howells likes to take long walks through the crooked streets of the old part of Boston.

RICHARD VAUX's love of justice was illustrated, nearly fifty years ago, at the time of the terrible Philadelphia riots, in 1844. He was so incensed at the religious persecution that he attended that he joined the Irish-American Society in order to show the world that he was Irish in thought, if not by birth, at a time when Irishmen were the objects of unreasoning prejudice and hatred.

WHILE driving out near Windsor, recently, the Queen of England and Prince Albert Victor of Wales saw two foreigners with a brown bear resting under the shade of the old elms of the avenue. The Queen ordered her carriage to be stopped, and the men were requested to allow the bear to give a bargain to the monarch. The bear was at once obeyed, the animal dancing with a stick in his paws on the greensward, and occasionally hugging its keeper, much to the amusement of the royal party, who laughed heartily at its antics. At the finish her Majesty gave the men some money.

A SCANDALOUS incident is said to have occurred during the journey of the Empress Eugenie through Belgium. At Liege a traveler entered the compartment occupied by the Empress and began to insult her.

At the train reached Verrieres the boor was told by the railway officials to leave the carriage, but he refused to do so, saying that he had paid for his seat. He began to smoke, whereupon the Empress got out of her compartment and made the journey to Cologne in a second-class carriage. It is not stated if the extraordinary traveler who thus insulted an Empress and ill-fated lady was a Belgian or a Frenchman.

A BERLIN correspondent writes: "A workman sold his lawfully-wedded wife to a small tradesman, or rather lent her for two years, at the moderate price of 1 mark. The tradesman, well satisfied with his bargain, lived happily with the woman. At the expiration of the term the husband demanded an additional 15 marks, asserting that in handing over his wife he had overlooked the fact that she had an excellent throat, and was strong enough to protect a would not budge a single penny beyond the original mark until the husband went into court. The wife was then ordered to return to her lord and master, who evidently valued her as an Arab values an elephant—for her ivory."

On the wedding was grand. She was dressed in a never looked half so sweet. With orange blossoms and a handsome veil that fell in folds to her feet.

In her left hand, glove gloves, to take the ring, she carried a bouquet in bloom. Why did she not take a white kid—And a tassel! Oh, the groom.

—Washington Post.

Bad as the Louisiana Lottery.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The Louisiana lottery is a bad thing and ought to be suppressed. But some of the opponents which are now being agitated are guilty of practices which, to the extent that they go, are equally as dishonest and dishonorable. We allude to the journals of this country which are aiming at increased circulation through guessing matches and trip-to-Europe contests. The circulation acquired in this desperate way is intended to impose upon advertisers by piling up figures which do not represent readers, but voters or guessers, and are, therefore, of no value to advertisers. An

Eastern paper recently added 20,000 to its circulation by a trip-to-Europe fake, but when the "contest" was over its figures fell back to less than their previous dimensions.

THE STATE PRESS.

Its Editors Continue to Discuss All Current Topics with Vigor and Force.

Cambridge City Tribune: The school children of Indiana should be provided with free books.

Greencastle Times: Democracy and Calumny have long been recognized as twin brothers, going hand in hand down the avenues of history.